

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum Experience Questionnaire ANSWERS:

The Plaza

1. The members of the Lincoln Family in the plaza are Abraham Lincoln, Mary Todd Lincoln, Robert Lincoln, Willie Lincoln, and Tad Lincoln. The missing member of the family is Eddie Lincoln, and he is not in the plaza because he passed away as a child before the Lincolns moved to the White House.
2. This question can have multiple answers. An example: The museum is arranged to go through Mr. Lincoln's life chronologically, so that it will be easier to understand the story of his life. The additional attractions and exhibits like the shows and Treasures Gallery enhance that story.
3. This question can have multiple answers. An example: These structures highlight the ambition in Lincoln's life, and the stark contrast of his humble beginnings to his rise in politics to be President of the United States of America.
4. The figures outside the White House are listed below. Keep in mind that the way that reason they wanted to see Mr. Lincoln can be interpreted in different ways, so answers may vary accordingly.
 - a. Sojourner Truth: May have wanted to talk to Lincoln about the abolishment of slavery and African American rights.
 - b. Frederick Douglass: May have wanted to talk to Lincoln about political issues, including but not limited to slavery.
 - c. John Wilkes Booth: Booth hated Lincoln, and it is likely that he did not want to see Lincoln, but rather harm him instead.
 - d. Ulysses S. Grant: Grant probably wanted to talk to Lincoln about the war and strategy.
 - e. George B. McClellan: Like Grant, McClellan probably also wanted to talk with Lincoln about the war and strategy.
5. The penny is located in the center of the plaza.

Journey One: The Pre-Presidential Years

1. Lincoln is reading Aesop's fables. The moral of one of Lincoln's favorite fables is that "A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand" and that moral would definitely ring true in the outbreak of the Civil War.
2. Lincoln was familiar with hard work, knew loss in his personal life, and liked to read very much, all which would have helped him become a great president down the road. The possibility that he saw a slave auction also would have influenced him later in life.
3. Living in a one room cabin with a large family, it would have been hard finding space to relax or be alone. The room would function as a kitchen, sitting room, bedroom, and more, so there would not often be much space to spread out.
4. Lincoln's journey is important because it was a trip in which he may have seen a slave auction, which would have been very emotional and traumatic, and would have influenced his opinions and ideas about slavery.
5. This question can have multiple answers. The slave auction probably made Lincoln feel sad, upset, and even angry.

6. One of Lincoln's close friends (some may even say first love) passed away in New Salem, and after his first engagement was broken off, there wasn't much holding him in the town.
7. This question can have multiple answers. An example would be: No they do not seem likely because Mary Todd was from the upper class of society, and usually would have been matched with someone of higher social and economic standing.
8. While living in Springfield, Lincoln was a lawyer. This knowledge of the law, as well as his work with and interaction with the people of the town, would have given him a lot of good experience to prepare for the presidency.
9. Lincoln let his children run around a lot and was not a strict disciplinarian. As you see in Journey One, the children are making quite a mess of his law office!
10. Popular sovereignty is the involvement of the people in governing themselves, each with the capability to manage themselves and "govern themselves" electing to give power to officials desiring to serve the state. Douglass speaks of popular sovereignty especially regarding the rights of the people to vote on whether or not to have slavery.
11. Lincoln got publicity all over the country because the debates were reported on nationally.
12. There were six candidates for president. Four are mentioned in Journey One.
 - a. Abraham Lincoln: Of the Republican Party. He wanted the Union to stay together, without slavery.
 - b. Stephan A. Douglass: Of the Democratic Party: He favored popular sovereignty and was moderate on slavery.
 - c. John C. Breckinridge: Of the Southern Democratic Party. He was a proponent of State's rights and keeping the institution of slavery.
 - d. John Bell: Of the Constitutional Union Party. He wanted to create compromise between the north and south.
13. In 1860, elections were much different. Some examples of the differences were the lack of quick and easy communication, such as radio, television, social media, internet, phones, etc. Additionally, the only voters were white men, which is much different from today.

The Union Theater: "Lincoln's Eyes"

1. Some of the things include: sorrow, joy, quietness, divine purpose, determination, and approaching death.
2. "Lincoln the man" was not universally well liked, and he had many things going on in his life, including joyful (like winning the presidency) and sorrowful events (like the grief for the loss of two of his sons during his lifetime). The legend of Lincoln makes him into a larger than life figure, so you cannot truly understand him as a person.

Journey Two: The Presidential Years

1. Elizabeth Keckley is helping Mrs. Lincoln get dressed. She is Mrs. Lincoln's dressmaker, and although she is African American, she is a close confidant to Mary, which was unusual for the time.

2. There is so much room devoted to the dresses because they help to illustrate what Mary Lincoln came up against as first lady in the White House, which was bitter social rivalry. The dresses in the room are replicas of dresses worn by Mary Todd Lincoln, Miss Kate Chase, Miss Harriet Lane, Mrs. Mary Ellen McClellan (George McClellan's wife), and Mrs. Adele Douglass (Stephan A. Douglas's wife).
3. Some of the symbols include Satan, women, a fool, a money, a king, a professor, a child, a joker, Nero, a dog, an acrobat, death, and a vampire.
4. This question can have multiple answers.
5. The Lincoln's were hosting a party at the White House that night, and although they were celebrating the success and the presidency, their son was not faring well. The party cost a lot of money, but the death of their son would take an even bigger toll on the family.
6. The servants are talking about Mrs. Lincoln trying to contact her son, Willie through spiritualists.
7. Below find the cabinet members and how they felt about the Emancipation Proclamation:
 - a. Secretary of State, William Seward: The proclamation was issued too early
 - b. Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon Chase: The proclamation did not go far enough
 - c. Attorney General, Edward Bates: Supported the proclamation
 - d. Secretary of the Interior, Caleb Smith: Gave reluctant support for the proclamation
 - e. Postmaster General: Montgomery Blair: The proclamation was too radical
 - f. Welles: Supported the proclamation
 - g. Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton: Strong supporter of the proclamation
8. Some people are very pleased by the Emancipation Proclamation because they were advocates for freeing the slaves. Others, who relied on slavery or who did not want freedom for African Americans, were angry about the proclamation. Still others thought Lincoln hadn't done enough by emancipating the slaves in the south, because there were still slaves in the boarder states.
9. The Emancipation Proclamation made it easier for black troops to fight because they were motivated to fight for their own freedom.
10. The total number of casualties from the North was 702,000, and from the South 621,000.
11. This question can have multiple answers.
12. Yes there were women in the war, many would fight alongside men, and disguise themselves by hiding any sign they were women.
13. Lincoln found out the figures by telegraph. He was deeply upset by the numbers, and the war took a large toll on the president, especially as the war progressed.
14. Gettysburg is also famous for Lincoln's speech at the site, a short two minute speech that was eloquent and continues to be looked to today for inspiration.
15. In 1864 Lincoln was re-elected to the presidency. His re-election would have impacted the war because it kept consistency in the White House and helped to keep the North united.

16. The Lincolns are happy and smiling in the theatre because the war is coming to a close and the Union will be reunited. After Mrs. Lincoln asked “What will Mrs. Harris think of my hanging on to you so?” Mr. Lincoln replied “She won’t think anything about it.”
17. After Lincoln’s death, his public image became much more universally well liked and looked up to. Some examples of this change include the Lincoln Memorial, this museum, and the appearance of Lincoln on the penny and \$5 bill.

Treasures Gallery

1. This question has multiple answers.
2. This question has multiple answers. An example is: It is important that we preserve these artifacts because they tell the story of a very sad, but important time in our nation’s history.
3. This question has multiple answers.

“Ghosts of the Library”

1. The collections of the library include many artifacts about the Civil War, the Lincolns, and Illinois, and therefore reveal many things about the past of our nation.
2. This question has multiple answers.